STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION ON ITS OWN MOTION,	:	
	:	
v.	:	**Docket No. 01-0539**
	:	
IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 13-712(g) OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT,	:	

PUBLIC

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DAVID J. SCHMOCKER
MANAGER - REGIONAL NETWORK ENGINEERING

U. S. CELLULAR, INC.

JUNE 17, 2002

Q. Please state your name?

A. My name is David J. Schmocker.

Q. By whom are you employed and what is your title?

A. I am employed by U. S. Cellular, a wireless telecommunications carrier. My title is Manager - Regional Network Engineering.

Q. How long have you worked for U. S. Cellular?

A. I have worked for U. S. Cellular for almost five years. I started with the company in June 1997.

Q. Please describe your educational background and provide specific details regarding any education and/or training you have had that relates to telecommunications?

A. In 1984, I earned an Associates in Applied Science degree in Electronic Communications Engineering Technology from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. In 1986, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. In 1990, I earned a Master of Business Administration from Marquette University. In addition, I am registered in Wisconsin as a professional Engineer.

Q. Please describe your telecommunications-related work experience before joining U. S. Cellular.

A. For approximately seven years, I worked for Wisconsin Bell (now SBC/Ameritech ("Ameritech")). During my tenure with Ameritech, I performed numerous functions including outside plant engineering, equipment (switching) engineering, transport technical support and supervision of a team of eight construction, installation and

maintenance technicians and repair technicians. Then, in 1993, I began working for MIS Labs as a Telecommunications Consulting Engineer. As such, I designed building cabling, PBX and LAN/WAN applications and projects. I also managed and wrote detailed specifications for such applications and projects. In 1996, I went to work for Time Warner Telecom as a Network Engineer. In that position, I was responsible for SONET equipment design, product procurement, inventory management and installation coordination, as well as code compliant building cabling design, installation coordination and testing.

Q. Please describe your current duties and responsibilities as U. S. Cellular's Manager - Regional Network Engineering.

A. As Manager - Regional Network Engineering, I oversee a team of network design and provisioning people who design, specify order and coordinate the installation of transport facilities, including wholesale special access service products in Illinois.

Q. Have you held any positions at U. S. Cellular other than Manager - Regional Network Engineering?

A. Yes. From June 1997 through October 2000, my title was Senior Network Planner.

Q. Please describe your duties and responsibilities as a Senior Network Planner at U. S. Cellular.

A. As Senior Network Planner, I was responsible for transport design and specification including wholesale special access service products in Illinois.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to describe the manner in which U. S. Cellular's utilizes wholesale special access services and describe U. S. Cellular's experience with Ameritech and Verizon as it relates to the provisioning of wholesale special access services.

Q. Please summarize your testimony?

A. My testimony shows that Ameritech's and Verizon's performance with respect to the provisioning of wholesale special access services is poor and negatively impacts U. S. Cellular's operations. As a result of installation delays, U. S. Cellular frequently is unable to begin providing service to its customers on a timely basis.

Q. Please describe the type of license pursuant to which U. S. Cellular operates in Illinois, the frequency at which U. S. Cellular operates and U. S. Cellular's coverage area.

Q. Please describe the manner in which U. S. Cellular utilizes wholesale special access services to provide telecommunication services in Illinois.

A. To provide telecommunications services to its Illinois customers, U. S. Cellular utilizes special access circuits to link its various cellular switches with its cell sites.

Q. Does the transmission of the voice and/or data links that are transmitted over the wholesale special access circuits U. S. Cellular utilizes to provide wireless telecommunications services in Illinois constitute intrastate traffic or interstate traffic?

Q.

Q.

Q. I'm now going to ask you some specific questions about the process by which U. S. Cellular orders special access circuits and the process by which those circuits are provisioned. First, please tell me whether U. S. Cellular uses the acronym "FOC" in connection with business transactions involving the ordering and/or provisioning of wholesale special access circuits?

A. Yes.

Q. What does "FOC" stand for?

A. "FOC" stands for firm order commitment.

Q. What is an "FOC" used for?

A. A telecommunications carrier from which U. S. Cellular orders wholesale special access circuits forwards U. S. Cellular an "FOC" to notify U. S. Cellular of the date on which the ordered circuits will be installed and ready for use. However, when ordering special access circuits, U.S. Cellular requests dates on which ordered circuits should be installed by selecting a date within the carrier's standard installation interval.

Q. What is the name of the document U. S. Cellular uses to order wholesale special access circuits?

A. U. S. Cellular submit orders for wholesale special access circuits to Ameritech via a web-based system (ALDIS) using an electronic version of a document that is referred to as an access service request or "ASR."

U. S. Cellular submit orders for wholesale special access circuits to Verizon via a web-based system (Intercom) using an electronic version of an "ASR."

Q. What factors impact the length of time that passes between the date on which U. S. Cellular orders wholesale special access circuits from Ameritech or Verizon and the date on which U. S. Cellular receives an "FOC" regarding those wholesale special access circuits?

A. The interval between U. S. Cellular's placement of an order and U. S. Cellular's receipt of an "FOC" is impacted by the availability of each company's on-line system (the systems are not always in service), the company's currently available provisioning resources and various other internal factors affecting the carrier to which the request is submitted.

Q. With respect to the wholesale special access circuits U. S. Cellular ordered from Ameritech during 2002, how often has Ameritech installed the requested circuits on or before Ameritech's "FOC" due dates or within Ameritech's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Ameritech's installations?

A. In general, during 2002, Ameritech installed overdue circuits between one and fourteen days late.

Q. With respect to the wholesale special access circuits U. S. Cellular ordered from Verizon during 2002, how often has Verizon installed the requested circuits on or before Verizon's "FOC" due dates or within Verizon's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Verizon's installations?

Q. Now let's discuss these carriers' performance with respect to installation during 2001. During 2001, how often did Ameritech install special access circuits requested by U. S. Cellular on or before Ameritech's "FOC" due dates or within Ameritech's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Ameritech's installations during 2001?

Q. During 2001, how often did Verizon install special access circuits requested by U. S. Cellular on or before Verizon's "FOC" due dates or within Verizon's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Verizon's installations during 2001?

Q. What about during 2000? In that year, how often did Ameritech install special access circuits requested by U. S. Cellular on or before Ameritech's "FOC" due dates or within Ameritech's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Ameritech's installations during 2000?

Q. During 2000, how often did Verizon install special access circuits requested by U. S. Cellular on or before Verizon's "FOC" due dates or within Verizon's standard interval?

Q. On average, how late were Verizon's installations during 2000?

Q. In conclusion, I'd like to ask you some questions about the Wireless Coalition formed by certain wireless telecommunications carriers participating in this rulemaking. Is U. S. Cellular a member of the Wireless Coalition?

A. Yes.

Q. Are the Wireless Coalition's amendments, revisions and changes to the Part 731 rule proposed and filed by the Commission's Staff on May 8, 2002, and thereafter supplemented, the amendments and/or revisions set forth in Exhibit 3.1 to Wireless Coalition Ex. 3.0?

A. Yes.

Q. Does U. S. Cellular support each of the recommended amendments, revisions and changes to Staff's proposed Part 731 rule that are set forth in Wireless Coalition Ex. 3.1?

A. Yes. U. S. Cellular fully supports all of the Wireless Coalition's proposed changes and strongly recommends that the Commission adopt each of the changes being proposed by the members of the Wireless Coalition.

Q. Does this complete your direct testimony?

A. Yes.